

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  
David F. Bolognia et al.

Serial No.: 09/691,373  
Filed: October 18, 2000

For: SYSTEM FOR MOUNTING  
PCI CARDS

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Group Art Unit: 2181

Examiner: Vu, Phong T.

Atty Docket: COMP:0162/FLE/SWA/POW  
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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION OR MAILING  
37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark Office in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.6(d) or is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below:

December 4, 2003

Date

Tait R. Swanson

Tait R. Swanson

Sir:

**DECLARATION OF JOHN R. GRADY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.131**

I, John R. Grady, hereby declare as follows:

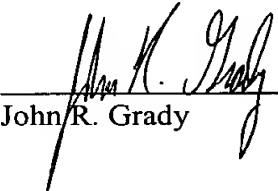
1. My residence, post office address, and citizenship are set forth below, along with my signature.
2. I am a co-inventor of record in the above-referenced application.
3. We conceived of the subject matter disclosed and claimed in the above-referenced application at least as early as August 1999. This conception is evidenced by a spreadsheet file dated August 19, 1999 and a slide presentation dated August 31, 1999, true and correct copies of which are attached hereto as Exhibits A and B, respectively. These Exhibits A and B clearly illustrate a PCI riser card assembly having a riser card and a pair of opposite card connectors as recited in the claims.
4. After conception, we were diligent in reducing the concept to practice. This diligence is evidenced by a Mechanical Plan of Record created on August 30, 1999 and signed electronically by David Bolognia on September 1, 1999. See Exhibit C. The Mechanical Plan of Record outlines development features and scheduling for a project named

Micro Machines, which includes a PCI riser board. *See* Exhibit C (highlighted in yellow). Specifically, the Mechanical Plan of Record provides a Mechanical Schedule listing Milestones, Working Dates, and High Confidence Dates for the various Milestones, which include Mechanical Prototypes A and B. *See* Exhibit C (highlighted in yellow). For example, the Mechanical Schedule lists High Confidence Dates of 9/21 and 11/2 for Mechanical Prototypes A and B, respectively. *See id.* A true and correct copy of the Mechanical Plan of Record is attached hereto as Exhibit C.

5. In close correspondence with the forgoing Mechanical Schedule, we reduced the concept to practice no later than November 18, 1999. This actual reduction to practice is within my personal knowledge and is further evidenced by tooling drawings, which were faxed to us on November 18, 1999 after successful creation and testing of a prototype of the PCI riser board. *See* Exhibit D. A true and correct copy of one of these tooling drawings is attached hereto as Exhibit D with the fax date highlighted in yellow.

6. I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and further that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements, and the like, are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. § 1001, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Date: 11/21/03

  
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John R. Grady

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